



THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
M.V.A. FINAL VISUAL PRESENTATION

by

PATRICK O'SULLIVAN

A THESIS

SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH
IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF VISUAL ARTS

IN

PAINTING

DEPARTMENT OF ART AND DESIGN

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

FALL 1991

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

The undersigned certify that they have read, and recommend
to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, for acceptance, a
thesis entitled:

MVA FINAL VISUAL PRESENTATION

submitted by PATRICK O'SULLIVAN

in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of
Visual Arts.

The University of Alberta

RELEASE FORM

NAME OF AUTHOR PATRICK O'SULLIVAN

TITLE OF THESIS MVA

DEGREE FOR WHICH THESIS WAS GRANTED MASTER OF VISUAL ARTS

YEAR THIS DEGREE WAS GRANTED 1991

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DEPARTMENT OF ART AND DESIGN

GRADUATE STUDIES

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

I hereby release the following works for incorporation into the University Collections, University of Alberta, as part of the Master of Visual Arts Thesis Collection:

TITLE

DATE

MEDIUM

SIZE

JACOB'S ANGEL

31/5/91

ACRYLIC
ON CANVAS

64" x 84"

A R T I S T ' S S T A T E M E N T

My pictures are usually begun from ideas or beginnings that are expanded upon during the working process and developed from picture to picture.

The thesis pictures began by focusing on the concept of pictorial space, drawing initially from the shallow space that dominates the North American abstract tradition.

I also became fascinated by Caravaggio's paintings; their spinning spherical space made to suggest something intangible.

By drawing from these two sources I aim to define the flat pictorial surface yet contradict it by hinting at illusionism.

More recently I have become interested in Persian and Near Eastern painting, their use of decorative structures on which colour is hung. This structure gave me the idea of using pattern as a drawing element that could weave in and out of more concrete elements on the surface.

For my pictures to be successful they have to evolve beyond these ideas, sustaining an independent visual conversation and maintaining their own energy.

SLIDE LIST (1 through 11 all acrylic on canvas).

TITLE	DIMENSIONS(inches)	YEAR
1 "THE KINGS SUPPER."	84 by 69½	1990
2 "THE GARDEN OF DELIGHTS."	71 by 86	1990
3 "THE MARTYR."	67 by 89½	1991
4 "SANDWORM."	83 by 66½	1991
5 "EMPEROR OF THE SUN."	66 by 81½	1991
6 "PERIMETER."	66½ by 74	1991
7 "JACOBS ANGEL."	65½ by 86½	1991
8 "EYE OF THE STORM."	66½ by 102	1991
9 "JACOB AND THE ANGEL."	66½ by 87½	1991
10 "THE PALACE OF JAFFA."	95 by 67	1991
11 "THE GARDEN OF DELIGHTS II."	66½ by 90½	1991

(12 through 20 are acrylic or gouache on paper)

12 "BUTTERFLY BREATH."	30 by 44	1991
13 "TREBLE CLEFF."	30 by 44	1991
14 "PARALLEL CIRCUIT."	30 by 44	1991
15 "ANIMAL PRINT."	40 by 28	1991
16 "THE PALACE GUARD."	30 by 44	1991
17 "SNAPDRAGON."	30 by 44	1991
18 "THE VIOLIN."	44 by 30	1991
19 "BLUE BLANCMANGE."	30 by 44	1991
20 "SILVERSTONE."	44 by 30	1991

